

REMARKS

It should be noted by the Examiner that a substitute specification is being filed herewith since the original application did not contain the proper spacing throughout the text. Also submitted is a copy of the original marked-up specification showing the changes thereto. No new matter has been added.

The disclosure of the present application has been objected to because, in the Examiner's opinion, lines 12-17 of page 8 do not make sense and the equation $3T1 \leq T2 \leq 2T1$ is indeterminate. Also, reference numeral 1b is not shown in the drawing as stated on page 15, line 10 of the present application. In connection with the equation recited in claim 5, it is believed that the formula $3T1 \leq T2 \leq 2T1$ is, in fact, correct. That is, $T2$ of the thickness change rate of the thickness transition part is limited between $3x11$ and $2x11$. Therefore, it is believed that the formula is, in fact, definite. Also, since reference numeral 1b cannot be found in the drawings, this reference numeral has been removed from the specification of the present application. As the Examiner will note, the Abstract of the Disclosure, the specification and the claims have been amended to eliminate idiomatic inadvertencies.

Claims 3 and 5 have been rejected by the Examiner under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and specifically claim the subject matter which the Applicant regards as the invention. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

For the reasons set forth hereinabove, it is believed that claim 5 is in fact definite. Also, claim 3 has been amended to eliminate the reference therein to

the specific standard test method. Accordingly, it is believed that claims 3 and 5 are now allowable.

It is noted, with appreciation, that the Examiner has indicated that claims 1, 2, 4 and 6-7 have been allowed and that claims 3 and 5 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejections under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as set forth in the Examiner's Office Action. Since claims 3 and 5 have been addressed in the present Amendment, it is believed that all of the claims of the present application, that is, claims 1-7, are now in condition for allowance and thus reconsideration of the objections and rejections and allowance of all of the claims of the present application are respectfully requested.

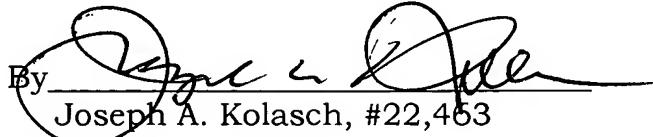
Conclusion

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Mr. Joseph A. Kolasch (Reg. No. 22,461) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By 
Joseph A. Kolasch, #22,463

JAK/njp
2927-0149P

P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000

Attachment(s): Abstract of the Disclosure
Substitute Specification